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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 /074 W
----------123950 211124Z /15
O 211050Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6387
NFO RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 197
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2484

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PORG US UN SF WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA:CONTACT GROUP BRIEFING OF KAUNDA

REF: (A) USUN 2619, (B) STATE 198356

1. KAUNDA SUGGESTED THAT THE
LOCAL CONTACT GROUP BRIEF HIM ON NAMIBIA AS WELL AS FOREIGN
MINISTER MWALE SUNDAY MORNING SINCE HE WANTED TO DISCUSS
RHODESIA WITH UK HIGH COMMISSIONER MILES AND ME. PRESENT
ALSO WERE PARTY SECY GEN ZULU, PRIME MINISTER MAINZA CHONA,
TWO STATE HOUSE AND FOUR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

2. IN THE CONTACTS GROUP PRELIMINARY MEETING IT HAD
BEEN AGREED THAT BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER MILES WOULD
DO THE BRIEFING ON THIE BASIS OF HIS SENIORITY. MILES
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EXPLAINED TO KAUNDA THE BASIS ON WHICH HE WAS MAKING
THE BRIEFING AND NOTED THAT SINCE THE AGREED PAPER WAS
LONG AND COMPLICATED, HE WOULD PREFER TO READ IT.
HE SAID HE REGRETTED HE COULD NOT LEAVE
A PAPER ON THE SUBJECT. HE THEN PROCEEDED TO READ
THE NON-PAPER TO WHICH THE ZAMBIANS LISTENED.

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3. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE PROCEDURE IRRITATED KAUNDA
AND AT THE END HE EXPRESSED HIS FEELING IN NO UNCERTAIN
TERMS. HE SAID HE COULD NOT DISCUSS THE MATTER UNTIL HE
COULD SEE AND STUDY A PIECE OF PAPER ON THE SUBJECT.
HE ASSURED MILES THAT ZAMBIA COULD BE TRUSTED IN THIS
MATTER AND SAID HE FELT THAT OUR WAY OF HANDLING IT WAS
"VERY CHILDISH" KAUNDA NOTED THAT THE U.S. AND UK HAD
BEEN WILLING TO PROVIDE HIM WITH SPECIFIC PAPERS ON RHODESIA
AND COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THEY REFUSED TO DO SO ON
NAMIBIA. I ASSURED HIM THAT THE DECISION
NOT TO DISTRIBUTE PAPERS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ZAMBIA,
BUT WAS TAKEN AS A METTER OF GENERAL PRINCIPLE, BUT HE
WAS NOT MOLLIFIED. MWALE ADDED THAT AS FAR AS THE
ZAMBIANS WERE CONCERNED, THEY REMAINED UNINFORMED ON
NAMIBIA DEVELOPMENTS. KAUNDA WAS CALLED FROM THE ROOM
TO MAKE A PHONE CALL AND ON HIS RETURN THE NAMIBIA PART
OF THE MEETING TERMINATED WITH THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR
AND GERMAN AND CANADIAN CHARGE'S DEPARTURE.

3. COMMENT: IN PAST BRIEFINGS, THE ZAMBIANS HAVE
REQUESTED A PIECE OF PAPER. HOWEVER I FEEL THAT
THE MISTAKE IN THIS CASE WAS MORE IN THE WAY THE
BRIEFING WAS DONE THAN IN THE PRINCIPLE THAT WE SHOULD
NOT GIVE THEM A PAPER. TO HAVE STARTED OUT BY
ANNOUNCING WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO LEAVE A PAPER AND
THEN READ FROM OURS WAS BOUND TO ANNOY THE ZAMBIANS.
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THIS IS THE FIRST OF THESE MEETINGS IN WHICH I HAVE
PARTICIPATED. IN THE FUTURE I WSHALL STRONGLY RECOMMEND
TO THE LOCAL CONTACT GROUP THAT THE SPOKESMAN PARAPHRASE
AND SUMMARIZE FROM THE INSTRUCTIONS.
LOW

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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